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# ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

## Washington, D. C. Hearings, January 1946

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**Statement by the**

**AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS**

January 2, 1946

---

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS,

STEPHEN S. WISE,
*President.*

IRVING MILLER,
*Chairman, Executive Committee.*

ALEXANDER H. PEKELIS,
WILL MASLOW,
*of Counsel.*

# Beautiful

Palestine.
Description & Travel

Office of Strategic Services

# PALESTINE

## DAS SCHÖNE PALÄSTINA

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2/14/47

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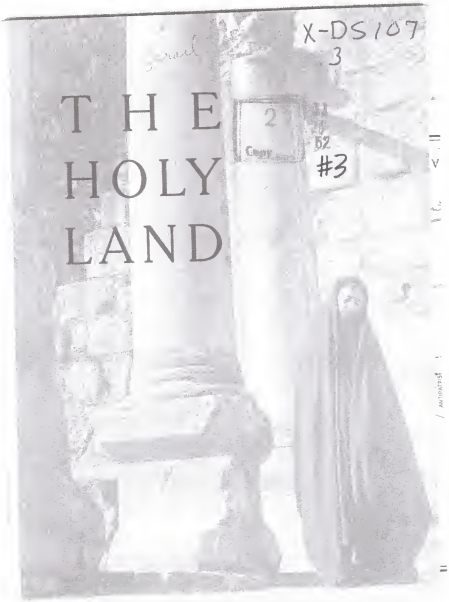


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# LA TERRE SAINTE

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# Journey With Me to Palestine

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R. L. McGinnis

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# ISRAEL #6

## LAND OF THE BIBLE

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# ISRAEL

**LAND OF THE BIBLE**

JEWISH HOMELAND

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JEWISH HOMELAND

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**LAND OF THE BIBLE**

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# ISRAEL

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# SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

# JERUSALEM

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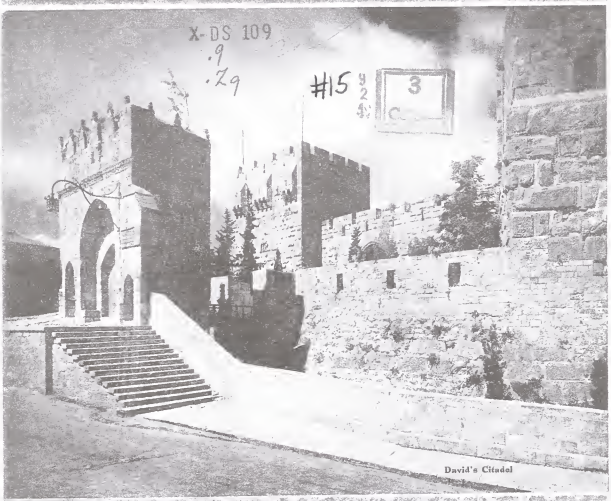

David's Citadel

PUBLISHED BY THE
KEREN HAYESOD
JERUSALEM
1936

X-DS 109
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Statement By Moshe Shertok
Head of the Political Department
Jewish Agency for Palestine
Press Conference Jan. 12,1948
Lake Success, N. Y.

Well Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you very much for having responded to our invitation. As you know, I returned from a literally flying visit to Palestine a couple of days ago and I thought I might take an early opportunity of sharing some of my impressions with the press in this country and putting to them some of our ideas as to what is impending.

I spent six days in Palestine and there was not much time to tour. I had to consult my colleagues, the Executive of the Jewish Agency, on the present state of affairs and on the forth coming round of our negotiations, negotiations with the Five Power Commission which had only just been formed.

I found the feeling among our people in Palestine generally tense but calm and resolute. It is realized that the choice before us was not one between a solution with disturbances and a solution without disturbances, but that rather the choice lay between disturbances with a solution or disturbances without a solution, and if the ordeal had to be faced it is infinitely preferable that it should be faced in the context of an international decision and of international readiness to implement that decision, rather than that it should be faced in a state of a political vacuum. The situation is naturally fraught with peril and there is no reason why its perilous character should be quite unnecessarily aggravated. I found the situation quite unnecessarily aggravated by one or two factors: first; the attitude of the British Administration. I must say that from that point of view the situation today seems to be glaringly anomalous. The Administration, acting of course under instructions from His Majesty's Government in London, has assumed two positions which appear to be mutually contradictory. On the one hand the British Mandatory Administration has declared itself responsible for the maintenance of law and order in Palestine so long as the Mandate lasts. On the other hand, the Administration had declared itself unwilling or unable to cooperate in the implementation of U.N. policy in Palestine. Now I submit to you that these two positions are mutually contradictory. It is not individual lives or property that is the target of the attack at present. It is the U.N. policy that is being attacked. You cannot, therefore, resist and effectively beat off that attack unless you are ready wholeheartedly to defend the policy which is being attacked. The Administration is now in the throes of that internal conflict.

When it comes to taking strong measures against the Arab attack the Administration finds itself ham-strung by its reluctant inability to take measures which would implicate it in the support of the policy which is being attacked. And therefore, its reaction to the physical attack cannot be as determinedly wholehearted and effective as it should be if its responsibility for the maintenance of law and order should be something really effective and not mere ink on paper. The point is further aggravated by the fact that politically speaking the Administration does not play a mere passive role. To all practical intents and purposes it pursues actively the pro-Arab political line which lies at the bottom of the White Paper policy of 1939. It is true that in a number of extreme cases British troops did their duty enforcing law and order in the face of Arab attacks, but on many, many other occasions and as far as the general line of contact of the authorities is concerned, the results of the Government's attitude has been to cripple Jewish defense and virtually to encourage Arab aggression. I say virtually—I do not say intentionally.

The effectiveness of Jewish defense arms has been wantonly reduced

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STATEMENT BY MORDECAI ELIASH

Chairman, Emergency Committee of the Jewish Community of Jerusalem

For release: 4 p.m.

Press Conference held at
Jewish Agency for Palestine
New York - January 7, 1948

1. The disturbances in Palestine began December 2, 1947, with a general strike proclaimed by the Arab Higher Committee and promised to be "peaceful". From the very first day the attitude of Government was that of an observer, confidently and somewhat wistfully expecting to prove that his own prognostication of events was accurate.

2. On the one hand, these events were to prove that there would be no acquiesence by the Arabs to the UN decision: on the other, Government was to remain faithful to its declared policy of doing nothing itself which might be interpreted as implementing the decision or proceeding on the theory that it would ever be carried out.

3. In Jerusalem, the period began with looting and burning of Jewish shops in a mixed Commercial Quarter. The action taken by Government, that of cordoning off the quarter, to preclude action by the Haganah ("to prevent clashes and loss of life"), and then looking on and condoning as the looting and arson went on, released an orgy of lawlessness which it became subsequently more difficult to subdue. Curfew was imposed on that Quarter, but in spite of that and of police supervision, looting continued for about three weeks, Jewish guards were not allowed, and the Jews were eventually forced to evacuate their shops to save what remained of them.

4. Once looting and burning of property came to be regarded as acts which Government was not going to stop by the use of force, murder became similarly legalized in the eyes of the Arabs. The Haganah was denied a status which would have enabled it to do police work. It was continued to be regarded and treated as an illegal armed organization, relegated to acts of retaliation

#18

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On Receipt

HADASSAH EXPERTS PREPARE PALESTINE FOR FOOD SHORTAGES:
PLANS TO FEED 6000 IN JERUSALEM AND 30,000 IN SCHOOLS
MAPPED OUT BY WORKERS WHO ALSO SUPPLY HAGANAH POSTS

New York, N.Y.:- In an effort to stave off possible suffering among the Jews of Palestine during the period of emergency resulting from Arab violence, nutrition experts of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America have mapped out "strategic blueprints" for the storing of food supplies and emergency feeding for the school and general population of Jerusalem and other communities in the Holy Land, it was disclosed here today by Mrs. Harry P. Fierst of this city, child welfare chairman of the group.

Information on this phase of Hadassah's emergency program in Palestine was communicated in an airmail report received from its staff of workers who among other services are responsible for the feeding of 30,000 children in the grammar grades.

The laying up of a two months' supply of food has been recommended and worked out for all regular schools, Yeshivot (Religious Schools) and children's institutions. In close cooperation with Vaad Leumi, the elected council of Palestine, menus and instruction on the use and care of food stocks, flexible enough to provide all necessary nutrition elements despite shortages have been prepared.

The Jerusalem Feeding Committee has arranged for all Jewish children of grammar school age to receive a meal which will be prepared in the kindergartens of the Old City. Where cooking on the premises in the schools is impossible, hot meals will be rushed to outlying sectors from the central kitchen in the Straus Health

- more -

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#19

On Receipt

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT AND BRITISH AMBASSADOR
ASKED TO PROTECT HADASSAH HOSPITAL AND SAFEGUARD ROAD
AGAINST ARAB ATTACKERS WHO REFUSE TO HONOR MERCY SYMBOL

New York, N.Y.:- Charging that Arab attacks and inadequate protection of roads by the British are jeopardizing medical services carried on in the Hadassah Hospital on Mt. Scopus outside of Jerusalem in Palestine, Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, today announced that it had made representations in Washington both to the State Department and to the British Ambassador to the United States, asking that steps be taken at once to insure the safety of Palestine's "largest and best equipped hospital".

The memorandum which was sent to Washington yesterday (March 15) by Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin of New York, national president of Hadassah, carries a specific "bill of indictment" listing twenty dates on which attacks by the Arabs took place against Hadassah medical teams, ambulances, buses and buildings between the period of December 30, 1947 and March 4, 1948.

During that time, 27 individuals, including doctors, nurses, patients and police were wounded and a Hadassah student nurse and guard were killed by snipers, bullets, hand grenades, mortar fire and road mines. The Arabs were accused of refusing to honor the Red Shield of David, mercy symbol equivalent to the Red Cross which is clearly visible on all Hadassah vehicles.

Pointing out that Hadassah is an American institution which has conducted non-sectarian medical services and allied projects in Palestine for the past thirty-six years, the memorandum disclosed that the half-mile of road from the base of Mt. Scopus to the top of the hill was pock-marked with four known main

- more -

#20

X-DS 309

MEMORANDUM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FROM: HADASSAH, THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, INC.

SUBJECT: PROTECTION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTION, THE HADASSAH HOSPITAL, MOUNT SCOPUS, JERUSALEM.

I.

Hadassah is an American organization, incorporated in the state of New York and registered with the Division of Controls, Department of State, under Number 185. It is comprised of 250,000 American women members. Its governing body is a National Board of American citizens. The funds which support its work in Palestine are collected in this country from American contributors. It has built, maintained and supported medical and health welfare institutions in Palestine since 1913. These institutions are non-political and non-sectarian, devoted solely to the care of those who seek its services and to promoting modern scientific medicine in Palestine.

Patients at the Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus include Arabs and British as well as Jews. During the war the hospital, its methods of treatment and the scientific findings of the hospital laboratories, were at the disposal of Allied military authorities in the Middle East, including American military medical personnel and American medical missions.

II.

The Hadassah Hospital and other institutions of the Rothschild-Hadassah-University Hospital and Medical Center on Mount Scopus, and hospital ambulances, transports and personnel have been under attack by armed Arab bands since December 30, 1947. The 450-bed hospital and other buildings are beleaguered. Gunfire, road mining, and road destruction have made the highway from Jerusalem to and on Mount Scopus extremely dangerous and frequently impassable.

Although plainly marked with the Red Shield of David, Hadassah ambulances carrying ill and wounded patients, and transports conveying personnel, medical supplies and food have been continually fired upon in complete disregard of international conventions. Bullets have hit the hospital proper and some have penetrated windows, endangering the lives of patients and staff alike. Telephone and electric lines frequently have been impaired. On a number of occasions relief staffs have been unable to reach the hospital, resulting in double duty for those on hand. On others, hospital contingents relieved from duty could not leave because of heavy firing, resulting in a situation that taxed the dormitory facilities of the hospital to the utmost. On February 26 conditions on the Scopus road were so hazardous that no patients, supplies or relief staff could reach the hospital.

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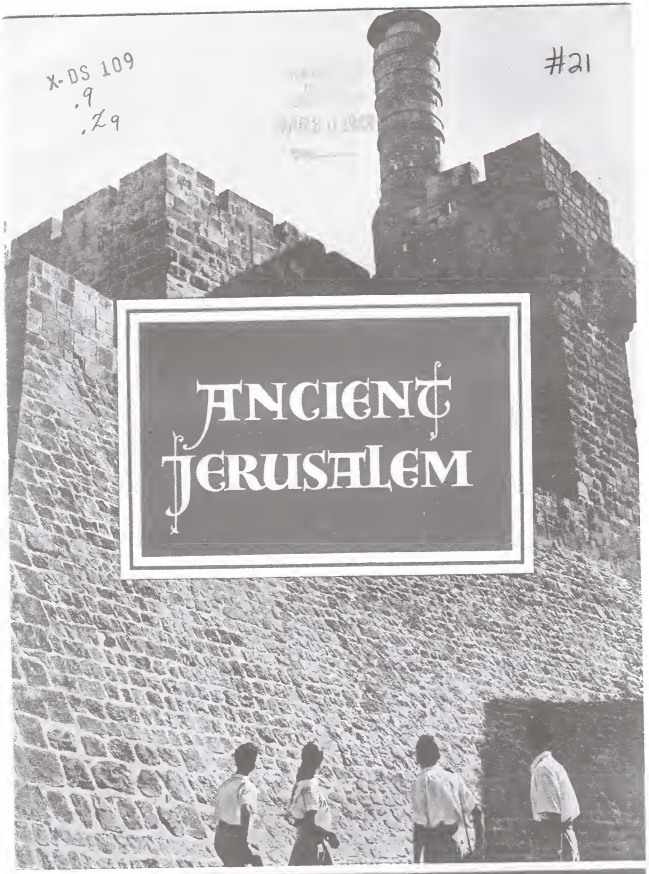
# ANCIENT JERUSALEM



PICTORIAL PALESTINE

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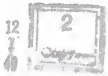


MEMORANDUM

on

# THE FUTURE OF JERUSALEM

## AN ANALYSIS OF THE PALESTINE CONCILIATION COMMISSION'S DRAFT INSTRUMENT

Submitted

to the

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

by the

DELEGATION OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS

LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK

NOVEMBER 15, 1949

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#23

# JERUSALEM before the United Nations

AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

# PUBLIC OPINION ON ISRAEL'S JERUSALEM PROPOSAL

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PROGRESS-INDEX
PETERSBURG, VIRGINIA

## Israel's Workable Proposal

The government of Israel has come forward with a suggestion regarding the religious shrines in Jerusalem and its vicinity. It has the marks of a sensible solution for a problem which is of concern to three great faiths, Christian, Jewish, and Moslem. Israel would have the United Nations take authority over the holy places of Palestine in Jerusalem and elsewhere.

This does not mean Israel has reversed its attitude to the United Nations plan, approved by the general assembly, to assume control over the whole Jerusalem area. The substitute is a less sweeping proposal, but it would seem to be a satisfactory substitute in that it would take the shrines of three religions out of the jurisdiction of any one government and make them accessible to all who cherish them and wish to visit them.

The problem is as complex as ever. It is affected by the division between east and west, by the differences between Jews and Arabs, and by the internal rivalries of the Arab states themselves. Yet it is of such vital concern to so many millions there should be a good chance of the constructive Israeli suggestion being accepted by the United Nations as a substitute for one which has no chance of approval.

MAY 31, 1950

CLEVELAND, OHIO, NEWS

## Israel Plan Offers Jerusalem Solution

Israel has taken a forward step in attempting to break the deadlock over Jerusalem. Expressing readiness to accept full United Nations control over the sacred shrines in her territory and all other matters of universal religious concern in the Holy City, the new state has presented a workable solution for a perplexing problem.

However, it must be accepted by Jordan which holds the Old City, where most of the holy places are located. This puts the next move up to Jordan, and, to a certain extent, to Great Britain, which is in a position to exert influence over King Abdullah.

The shrines, sacred to three great religions, should be under UN jurisdiction as a protective measure and to guarantee free access. The Israeli suggestion, in line with recommendations of a number of American religious groups, should be accepted as a fair basis of further discussion.

MAY 31, 1950

GAZETTE & POST
WORCESTER, MASS.

## Israel's New Plan For the Holy Places

THAT ISRAEL would formally reject the United Nations plan for internationalizing all of Jerusalem was fully expected. The idea has lost favor in many quarters since the United Nations proposed it. Practically, there is more in Jerusalem than its shrines, and to internationalize it might create difficult economic and political problems.

Far more significant than Israel's rejection of the UN plan, therefore, is that country's alternate proposal. The suggestion is that the ancient city's holy places be all placed under a United Nations authority, with Israel and Hashemite Jordan guaranteeing full access, complete human rights and all other facilities necessary to maintain those places as the world's religions want them maintained. The effect would be to internationalize the holy places without doing so to the whole city.

The need now is for Jordan to agree. Jordan occupies the old walled city, wherein are all but two of the thirty holy places. Yet if King Abdullah is sincere in wanting to maintain tranquility and a permanent settlement of a troublesome question, he can scarcely do better than accept Israel's proposal. Besides offering a method of caring for precious spots which countless millions revere, the plan is a test of the very good will which all religions profess.

JUNE 1,1950

ISRAEL OFFICE OF INFORMATION

NEW YORK
11 East 70 Street
TRafalgar 9-7600

WASHINGTON, D. C.
2210 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
ADams 5411

LOS ANGELES
208 West Eighth Street
TRinity 5215

MONTREAL, CANADA
1250 University Street
PLateau 2549

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# ירושלים

DEDICATED TO THE STRUGGLE OF NINETEEN CENTURIES WAGED BY THE JEWISH PEOPLE FROM THE TIME THAT THE TEMPLE WAS DESTROYED TO THE TIME THAT THE KNESSET — ISRAEL'S PARLIAMENT — WAS FORMALLY OPENED IN THE HOLY CITY OF

# JERUSALEM

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EFFECTS OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION ON THE ARAB POPULATION IN PALESTINE

--By Mrs. Samuel Schulsinger

Recent events in Palestine have focused world attention on the fundamental issue involved in the effort of the Jews to re-establish the Jewish National Home in Palestine. Fifty years ago when the first Zionist settlers came to Palestine the Arab problem did not loom as an important political issue. True, Palestine was even then far from being an uninhabited country. However, living in a primitive state of culture, the Palestine Arabs were at that time hardly animated by any national ideals or notions. Zionist leaders of the pre-war period, intensely absorbed in the problem of future relations with Turkey and the Great Powers, gave little thought to Jewish-Arab relations in Palestine proper. The few Arab intellectuals concerned with national problems regarded Zionism from divergent points of view. Some ignored it as a fantastic idea with no practical bearing on the fate of the Arabs, a few condemned it as inimical to the interests of the Arabs. There were also heard some friendly and even enthusiastic voices of Arab leaders who considered Jewish immigration into Palestine a valuable contribution toward the economic and cultural development of the Near East. The World War brought the problem of Jewish-Arab relations from the plateau of abstract theory into the realistic plane of practical politics. Certain rulers of the Arab peninsula had taken part in the War on the side of England. These Arab allies of England had vague nationalistic notions. They were animated chiefly by dynastic motives, and obtained from the British Empire in 1916 the vague promise of a great Arab state to embrace all Arab-speaking provinces. When the World War was over the more cultured Arabs of the large cities in the Near East adopted a national program calling for the independence and unity of the Arab-speaking countries.

On the other hand, the World War brought the Jewish national hopes for Palestine to a high pitch of enthusiasm. The Balfour Declaration, though vague and elastic, was widely hailed as a definite promise of a Jewish state. Arab opposition to Jewish immigration and colonization found its chief expression in the bloody attacks of 1921 and 1929. What was our attitude toward those attacks? We "repressed" these events, deliberately forgot them and dismissed them from our minds. It is pardonable -- the Jewish need for Palestine is so great and so dire. The spiritual need of world Jewry to think of one place on earth where there is no burning Jewish problem is so great and so dire. Now, we know we must take up that burden and add it to our other burdens. But this one will be worth bearing. This one at least we shall bear for some definite purpose.

As persecution and economic misery pressed ever greater burdens upon the Jews in European lands, the flow of immigration increased, until in 1935, 61,000 Jews entered Palestine. By the end of 1935 the population of Palestine was approximately 400,000, having been 12,000 in 1880, 55,000 in 1919. With the return to Palestine of a great mass of Jews in the past decade and a half, a new economic and cultural life was created there. It is estimated that since the beginning of British administration, the Jews have expended in investments in Palestine the amount of four hundred million dollars. But it is not merely their resources and possessions which they brought to fructify the land which had lain desolate and uncultivated for centuries. An untold number of men and women have laid down their lives in salvaging great areas of pestilential land, making it habitable and productive for Jews as well as Arabs. Unused death-dealing acres were rendered fruitful by Jewish pioneers who virtually created

#27

X-DS 112
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# An Appeal

TO

## American Justice and Fair Play on Behalf of the Palestine Arabs

*issued By*
THE ARAB NATIONAL LEAGUE
303 FIFTH AVENUE
New York, N. Y.

X-DS 112
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ARABS - Social Life & customs
#28
Office of Strategic Services
1 5 48

# ŻYCIE ARABÓW w PALESTYNIE

KULTURA - SZTUKA - NAUKA - OBYCZAJE

Culture Art Science Customs

حياة
العرب في فلسطين
ثقافة . فن ، علم ، عادات
المؤلف
رومان سيدوفسكي
القدس . ١٩٤٤

OPRACOWAŁ
I WYDAŁ
ROMAN SEADOWSKI

JEROZOLIMA
1944

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ARABIA - Industry

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Dodatek do książki „ŻYCIE ARABÓW w PALESTYNIE"

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# ARABSKI

# PRZEMYSŁ i HANDEL

Industry

W

PALESTYNIE.

opracował i wydał
ROMAN SŁADOWSKI

JEROZOLIMA
1944

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الصناعة والتجارة عند عرب فلسطين

تجديد ونشر
رومان سلادوفسكي

القدس ١٩٤٤

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#30

# FESTSCHRIFT

zu Ehren des Herrn

## OBERKANTORS DAVID MEISEL,

anlässlich des Jubiläums seiner 25. jährigen Amtstätigkeit in Karlovac.

Herausgegeben vom

Verbande der jüdischen Kantoren in Königreiche Jugoslavien.

---

1931.

Tiskara A. Engel, Zagreb.

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# AUS DEN GEBETEN ISRAELS

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# GRANDES FIGURAS JUDIAS

## DE TODAS LAS EPOCAS

EDICIONES DE LA "TRIBUNA ISRAELITA"
MEXICO, D. F.
AVENIDA SAN JUAN DE LETRAN 8

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M-DS 115
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# GRANDES FIGURAS JUDIAS

## DE TODAS LAS EPOCAS

EDICIONES DE LA "TRIBUNA ISRAELITA"
MEXICO. D. F.
AVENIDA SAN JUAN DE LETRAN 8

X-DS 115
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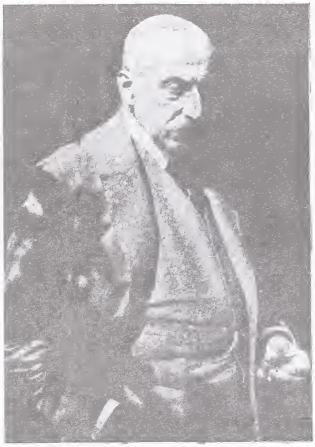

# Max Liebermann

## 1847-1935

Del célebre pintor judío alemán, las Galerías y los Museos de Europa y América se disputan las obras.

Se le considera como el exponente del impresionismo en Alemania, y con sus obras inmortales ha inspirado a una cantidad de artistas en su país, en Francia, en Suiza y en Italia.

Actuó fuertemente contra el nazismo y fué clamorosa la dimisión que presentó del cargo de Presidente "ad honorem" de la Academia Prusiana de Artes, como protesta contra el régimen nazi.

EDICIONES DE LA "TRIBUNA ISRAELITA". MEXICO, D. F.

JULIO DE 1948